

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 5-9 11-14, and 16-25 without prejudice or disclaimer of the underlying subject matter and amend claims 2, 10, and 15 as set forth below:

1. (CANCELED).

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical switching element according to claim 1, comprising:
a total reflection member having a total reflection face by which incident light can be totally reflected; and
a plurality of translucent light extracting portions constructing one pixel, each of which can be switched between a first position at which the light extracting portion comes into contact with or is close to the total reflection face of the total reflection member in a distance in which near field light can be extracted and a second position apart from the total reflection face by more than the distance in which the near field light can be extracted,

wherein areas of faces for extracting incident light of at least two of the plurality of light extracting portions are different from each other.

3. (ORIGINAL) An optical switching element according to claim 2, wherein areas of faces for extracting incident light of all of the plurality of light extracting portions are different from each other.

4. (ORIGINAL) An optical switching element according to claim 3, wherein a ratio of the areas of the faces for extracting the incident light of the plurality of light extracting portions is 2^n (where n is an integer of 0 or larger).

5. (CANCELED).

6. (CANCELED).

7. (CANCELED).

8. (CANCELED).

9. (CANCELED).

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical switching element according to claim 9, comprising:
a total reflection member having a total reflection face by which incident light can be totally reflected;
a plurality of translucent light extracting portions constructing one pixel, each of which can be switched between a first position at which the light extracting portion comes into contact with or is close to the total reflection face of the total reflection member in a distance in which near field light can be extracted and a second position apart from the total reflection face by more than the distance in which the near field light can be extracted, and
driving means for displacing the light extracting portion to either the first position or the second position in accordance with the leading direction of the incident light,
wherein the total reflection member is a translucent substrate having a pair of parallel faces one of which is a light incident face and the other serving as either a total reflection face when the light extracting portion is in the second position or a light emitting face when the light extracting portion is in the first position, and
wherein a pair of V-shaped grooves are provided on the light incident face side of the translucent substrate, the incident light is led by one of the V-shaped grooves to the total reflection face, and reflection light from the total reflection face is led to the outside by the other V-shaped groove.

11. (CANCELED).
12. (CANCELED).
13. (CANCELED).
14. (CANCELED).

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical switching element according to claim 14, comprising:
a total reflection member having a total reflection face by which incident light can be totally reflected; and
a plurality of translucent light extracting portions constructing one pixel, each of which can be switched between a first position at which the light extracting

portion comes into contact with or is close to the total reflection face of the total reflection member in a distance in which near field light can be extracted and a second position apart from the total reflection face by more than the distance in which the near field light can be extracted,

wherein on a face on the side opposite to the total reflection member side of the light extracting portion, a total reflection preventing portion for preventing total reflection by the light extracting portion of incident light passed through the total reflection member when the light extracting portion is in the first position is provided, and

wherein the total reflection preventing portion is a translucent tapered portion having an angle at which total reflection does not occur, for leading incident light in a direction opposite to the total reflection member side.

16. (CANCELED).
17. (CANCELED).
18. (CANCELED).
19. (CANCELED).
20. (CANCELED).
21. (CANCELED).
22. (CANCELED).
23. (CANCELED).
24. (CANCELED).
25. (CANCELED).